

under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 649.

N. D. RILEY
Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

W. E. CHINA
Assistant Secretary

London

11 May 1962

COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED SUPPRESSION OF *CYPRAEA PIPERITA*
GRAY, 1825

By Ray H. Summers (*Petaluma, California, U.S.A.*)

(see volume 19, pages 317-322)

I have one of the three largest and most complete private collections of *Cypraea* in the world and specialize in the Cypraeidae particularly in the identification of them by the study of their morphological features.

I am very interested in the stabilization of the nomenclature to correct the confusion that now exists. I am in complete agreement with Griffiths' recommendations except the alternative to retain *C. piperita* and rule *bicolor* a synonym. I do not feel that the name *C. piperita* is suitable for *C. bicolor*, and there is probably as many or more specimens labelled *C. bicolor* in collections than there is those labelled *C. piperita*.

The collectors, who specialize in *Cypraea*, that I have talked with are in agreement with the above.

The use of the name *C. angustata* by some conchologists for *C. fuscidentata* is very undesirable as the latter does not have lateral spots.

By Ernst Mayr (*Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A.*)

It would seem infinitely better to adopt the alternative listed by Griffiths in the last paragraph on page 320. To select a neotype for *C. piperita* in accordance with modern usage would be entirely in accordance with stability and universality, and preserve usage of the name *piperita* as established by Sowerby's interpretation as made in 1832. I would like to call attention to the fact that the Commission has repeatedly used its plenary powers in recent years for such neotype designations that would serve stability and universality of usage. I would strongly favour such an action by the Commission in order to preserve such a well-known name as *C. piperita*.